

REMARKS

Claims 24-28 are pending in the present application. Of these claims, claims 24 and 25 stand allowed and claims 26-28 have been added. Claims 14 and 15 have been cancelled.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. 102(b):

In regard to this rejection, in an effort to expedite allowance of the present application, the relevant claims have been cancelled, making this rejection moot.

35 U.S.C. 103(a):

In regard to this rejection, in an effort to expedite allowance of the present application, the relevant claims have been cancelled, making this rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter:

As indicated in the Office Action, claims 24 and 25 stand allowed.

New Claims

New claim 26 has been added in accordance with the Examiner's indication in the Office Action that "[N]one of the references or record prior to applicant's filing date disclosed, teaches, or suggests an active voltage limiting and failure detection system for an energy storage cell of a multiple energy storage cell pack, the energy storage cell having a cell voltage V_{cell} , the system comprising: a first electrical circuit drawing a significant amount of power from the energy storage cell, which will stop drawing the significant amount of power to reduce the cell voltage V_{cell} when the cell voltage V_{cell} reaches a minimum voltage V_{min} ." New claims 27 and 28 include the subject matter of cancelled claims 14 and 15, except they now depend on new claim 26. Therefore, new claims 26-28 should be in condition for immediate allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Serial No. 09/972,073
10 June 2004 Reply to
10 March 2004 Office Action

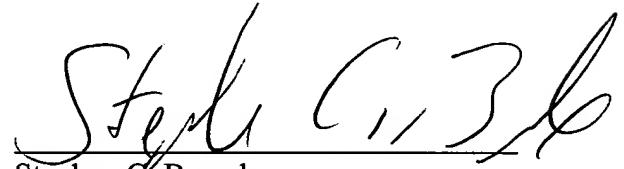
CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above, allowance of the application is believed to be warranted and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at the number listed below is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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